

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR**Geological Survey****Advisory Committee on Water Information; Meeting**

BUREAU: Geological Survey (USGS), Interior.

ACTION: Notice of a meeting of the Advisory Committee on Water Information (ACWI).

SUMMARY: This is to inform the public about the February 1998 meeting of the ACWI. The meeting is open to the public.

DATE: The meeting will begin on February 17, 1998, at 9 a.m. EST, and will adjourn on February 18 at 12:45 p.m.

LOCATION: Sheraton Reston Hotel, 11810 Sunrise Valley Drive, Reston, VA.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Nancy Lopez, Executive Secretary of the ACWI, at telephone number: (703) 648-5014 or facsimile number: (703) 648-5644. Her address is 417 National Center, U.S. Geological Survey, Reston, VA 20192. Anyone needing special arrangements of services to participate effectively in the meeting is requested to inform Beth Cox at telephone number (703) 648-6832. For special arrangements please let Ms. Cox know by noon EST, Friday 13, so that your needs can be accommodated.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The ACWI is the major national mechanism for implementing Office of Management and Budget Memorandum No. 92-01, Coordination of Water Resources Information. With over 30 member organizations, the ACWI represents a wide range of water-resources interests and functions. The members include all levels of government and the private sector. The ACWI advises the Federal Government on activities and plans related to Federal water-information programs and the effectiveness of those programs in meeting the Nation's water information needs. Also, member organizations of the ACWI collaborate with others to sponsor workshops, symposia, and other forums to foster better communication among Federal and non-Federal sectors about water-information activities and needs.

At this meeting, the ACWI will discuss a variety of topics including water-resources aspects of the President's Fiscal Year 1999 Budget Request, the Clean Water Action Plan, water-resources decision support systems, geospatial data priorities for water-resources management, streamgaging concerns, the need for a subordinate group to address water

quantity information issues, and water-quality monitoring and assessment. For more detailed information about the program, please contact Ms. Lopez as shown above.

The meeting will include an opportunity for public comments. To make public comments, please provide a written request by noon EST, February 12, 1998, to Ms. Lopez. The request should include the name of the person that will be speaking and the general topic. Verbal comments to the ACWI should not exceed 5 minutes. At the meeting please provide 40 written copies of the comments to the registration desk for distribution and archiving as required by law. Anyone wishing to provide written information to the ACWI may do so at anytime by providing 40 copies to Ms. Lopez.

Dated: January 23, 1998.

Lewis Wade,

Acting Assistant Chief Hydrologist, Office of Information.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR**Bureau of Indian Affairs****National Tribal Consultation; Meeting**

AGENCY: Office of the Secretary, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of Tribal Consultation Meeting—Tribal Trust Account Holders and Allottees.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that the Office of the Secretary will conduct four (4) consultation meetings with any Indian tribe, band, nation, allottee group, individual allottee, other organized group or community, including any Alaska Native village or regional or village corporation as defined in or established pursuant to the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (85 Stat. 688), which is recognized as eligible for the trust programs and services provided by the United States to Indians because of their status as Indians.

The purpose of these consultation meetings is to obtain oral comments regarding the Recommendations of the Secretary of the Interior for Settlement of Disputed Tribal Trust Fund Accounts, which were delivered to the U.S. Congress on November 13, 1997. The Recommendations of the Department were based on comments received in a prior consultation process in January 1997, on legislative options for settling tribal trust fund claims. The Recommendations developed by the Department of the Interior consist of a

report and legislative proposals aimed at settling more than two decades of disputed balances in Tribal Trust Fund accounts.

The Administration is pursuing a three-pronged strategy to address issues related to the Department of the Interior's administration and management of Indian trust funds. First, it is proposing this legislative approach that utilizes informal dispute resolution mechanisms to address claims that tribes may have with regard to the Department's past management of tribal trust fund accounts. Second, in conjunction with the special Trustee for American Indians, the Department has developed recommendations for improving the underlying trust management and accounting systems. Third, the Department has proposed legislation to end the increasing fractionation of ownership of Indian allotted lands.

The consultation meetings will be held to receive tribal comments on the first part of this strategy—the Secretary's Recommendations for settlement of disputed tribal trust funds accounts. Tribes may attend any of the consultation sessions.

DATES (1998): Four consultation sessions will be conducted:

February 9, 1998, Portland, OR, Airport Sheraton Hotel, 8235 NE Airport Way, Portland OR, 503-281-2500.

February 10, 1998, Albuquerque, NM, Sheraton Uptown Albuquerque, 2600 Louisiana Blvd., NE., Albuquerque, NM, 505-881-0000.

February 11, 1998, Oklahoma City, OK, Radisson Inn Hotel, West Interstate 40 & Meridian Ave., Oklahoma City, OK, 405-947-7681.

February 12, 1998, Minneapolis, MN, Minneapolis/St Paul Hilton, 3800 East 80th Street, Minneapolis, MN, 612-854-2100 or 800-637-7453.

All sessions will begin at 9 AM and continue until completed, except the Albuquerque, NM meeting which will begin at 8 AM. Public attendance may be limited to the space available.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Deputy Commissioner, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Department of the Interior, 1849 C Street, NW., Washington, DC 20240, 202-208-5116, FAX 202-208-6334.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The purpose of these consultation meetings is to provide Indian Tribal trust account holders and Allottees an opportunity to provide comments regarding the "Recommendations of the Secretary of the Interior for Settlement of Disputed Tribal Trust Fund Accounts." The objectives of the Recommendations are: